



Overseas Specialist Surgical Association of Australia

**Orthopaedic Surgical Team**  
**Hospital: St. Damian/ St. Rafael, Cancar**  
**May 5-12 2012**

1. Dr. Colin Whitewood—Surgeon/Team Leader
2. Dr. Jerome Wisniewski—Anaesthetist
3. Dr. Laura Wisniewski—Observer
4. Ms. Paula Karra—Theatre&Recovery Nurse
5. Ms. Anastasia Stain—Interpreter

Counterparts: Orthopaedic Team from Dr. Sutomo in Surabaya, East Java:

1. Heri Suroto, MD PhD Orthopaedic Surgeon&Hand&Microsurgery Consultant
2. Christriyogo SW, MD Anaesthetist
3. Wirindro Wisnubroto, MD Orthopaedic Registrar
4. M. Hardian Basuki, MD Orthopaedic Registrar
5. Yakobus Edo, MD Anaesthetist Registrar
6. Dr. Ferry Doni Trilasto, SpOT Orthopaedic Surgeon in RS Mitra Keluarga, Cikarang

St Damian & St Rafael Hospital:

Ferdi Jaleng – Head of St Damian Rehabilitation Centre  
Sr. Reginardis Beuther – Head of Theatre  
Sr. Therysia – Head of Yayasan St Damian Cancar  
Ernawati Kabora Theatre Nurse  
Sabina Bayu Theatre Nurse  
Ferdi Jelalu Theatre Assistant/Physiotherapist  
Donny Theatre Assistant  
Ponti Kontamat Orderly  
Dr. Mario Suwandi Community Doctor in Ruteng  
Sr. Hedwina The Best Cook !!

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

**The Bupati in Manggarai for his invitation to enable OSSAA to send surgical teams to Cancar and surrounding areas.**

**The Head of the Health Services in Ruteng for his ongoing support.**

**Sr Therysia Gopu for her tireless effort in organising OSSAA's documentation and transportation**

**Sr Reginardis Beuther Operational nurse**

**The Indonesian Consulate in Darwin**

**Mr Hendrik Tawur for his help organising internal travel**

**APHS Pharmacy St John of God Hospital–Murdoch**

**Pharmacy–Mr Peter Custance St John of God Hospital–Subiaco**

**Smith and Nephew (Medical Consumables Donation)–Ms Anika Tritt**

### **Program:**

Dr Colin Whitewood's orthopaedic team from Perth visited Cancar on 5 – 12 May 2012: included in the team were anaesthetist Dr Jerome Wisniewski, theatre sister Paula Karra and interpreter/coordinator Anastasia Stain. They were joined by Dr Laura Wisniewski.

The visit was only finalized in the preceding month due to new administrative requirements that we had to meet. As part of these new arrangements, we were joined for a few days in the middle of our trip by Dr Heri Suroto from Surabaya and his team including another orthopaedic surgeon (Dr Ferry Doni Trilasto), two orthopaedic trainee registrars, a consultant anaesthetist (Dr Christrijogo SW) and an anaesthetic trainee registrar. This meant that for three days of the visit we were spectacularly overstaffed but gave us the opportunity for a wonderful exchange of ideas. Dr Suroto was able to explain with great clarity the nature of provincial health delivery among the different regions on Indonesia and helped greatly with our understanding. We were very excited to hear of the government's move towards universal access to health care for all Indonesia citizens in the next year or two.



Over the week there were 70 consultations and 20 operations, and great satisfaction was received by the opportunity to review some cases from previous visits. One patient was 31 years of age when seen

in 2011 with a tibial non-union necessitating the use of crutches full time. He returned with a healed tibia, walking without crutches, and was considerate enough to enquire whether we wanted our intramedullary nail back to use it again (see xrays).



2011

2012

The case mix we encountered was similar to previous years with a lot of trauma that had been treated with traditional Manggarai methods. The predominant diagnosis remained clubfoot with our most challenging case involving a 17 year old girl who required a two stage approach to her foot correction (see photos). Two limbs were amputated: one leg for an advanced fungating tumour and a completely flail arm following a brachial plexus injury and a failed nerve transplant procedure some years before.



## OVERVIEW

**Ms. Anastasia Stain-Interpreter**

**I met this Perth based team in Bali and we all flew out to Flores the following morning for an intensive week of assessment, operations and post surgical care. In all 20 operations were performed and some 70 patients were assessed, many for future referral and procedures. All the team, at the conclusion of the visit judged the time spent there as successful and rewarding for the care givers and care receivers alike.**

**The hospital at St Damian had a visit from six Indonesian surgeons from Surabaya, East Java. Their visit was designed as part of a skills transfer. Colin and Jerome were in their**

element and did not miss an opportunity to impart their knowledge to the visitors. Vertical stitching was of particular interest to them !

As usual, from the time we got there until the day we left the St Damian medical staff prepared everything and assisted the whole process in a smooth and efficient manner. Likewise, the domestic arrangement, accommodation, catering,etc was wonderful. The nuns are so good at what they do. As the operating list was able to be finished a bit earlier than expected, the team was treated by the nuns to a trip to Ruteng to visit a convent. We all loved this side trip. I have many fond memories of working alongside this Perth mob !

Very professional and fun to be with.....would sign up for a re-run given the opportunity. Thank you all for having me on board.



**Sr.Mariss Stella and Sr Thres**